

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LISBON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 132741

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PO

SUBJECT: COTTON TEXTILE AGREEMENT

REF: LISBON 5570

1. US AND PORTUGAL EXCHANGED NOTES DECEMBER 30, 1974, EXTENDING COTTON BILATERAL UNTIL MARCH 31, 1975. AT THAT TIME, IT WAS OUR INTENTION TO BRING EXISTING BILATERAL INTO CONFORMITY WITH MFA. HOWEVER, AFTER RE-EXAMINING THE LEVEL AND COMPOSITION OF TEXTILE IMPORTS FROM PORTUGAL, WE PROPOSE THAT THE PRESENT AGREEMENT BE ALLOWED TO LAPSE.

2. THE BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT WOULD BE REPLACED BY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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AN "AGREEMENT TO CONSULT", THE TEXT OF WHICH IS AS FOLLOWS: EXCELLENCY: I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING EXPORTS OF COTTON TEXTILE PRODUCTS FROM PORTUGAL TO THE UNITED

STATES EFFECTED BY EXCHANGE OF NOTES ON NOVEMBER 17, 1970,
AS AMENDED.

AS A RESULT OF THE UNITED STATES' REVIEW OF ITS BILATERAL
AGREEMENTS UNDER ARTICLE 2 OF THE ARRANGEMENT REGARDING
INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO

AS THE ARRANGEMENT), AND ALSO THE MUTUAL REVIEW WITH
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF PORTUGAL OF THE
TRADE IN TEXTILES BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND THE UNITED STATES,
I WISH TO PROPOSE THAT THE BILATERAL COTTON TEXTILE
AGREEMENT REFERRED TO ABOVE BE TERMINATED.

SHOULD EXPORTS OF COTTON, WOOL, AND MAN-MADE FIBER
TEXTILES AND APPAREL PRODUCTS FROM PORTUGAL TO THE
UNITED STATES DEVELOP IN SUCH A MANNER SO AS TO CAUSE OR
THREATEN TO CAUSE IN THE UNITED STATES PROBLEMS OF
MARKET DISRUPTION AS DEFINED IN THE ARRANGEMENT, THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES MAY REQUEST CONSULTATIONS
WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF PORTUGAL. I FURTHER PROPOSE THAT
THE GOVERNMENT OF PORTUGAL AGREE TO RESPOND WITHIN 30
DAYS OF THE DATE OF SUCH A REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS AND
TO CONSULT WITHIN 60 DAYS THEREAFTER (UNLESS OTHERWISE
MUTUALLY AGREED) TO ARRIVE AT AN EARLY SOLUTION ON
MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY TERMS.

IF THE FOREGOING PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTABLE TO YOUR
GOVERNMENT, THIS NOTE AND YOUR EXCELLENCY'S NOTE OF
ACCEPTANCE ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF PORTUGAL
SHALL CONSTITUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS,
EFFECTIVE ON THE DATE OF YOUR NOTE OF ACCEPTANCE.

ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE RENEWED ASSURANCES OF MY
HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. END TEXT.

3. WE HAVE FOLLOWED THIS COURSE WITH SPANISH GOVERNMENT,
AMONG OTHERS, AND WE BELIEVE DROPPING AGREEMENT WILL BE
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VERY MUCH IN INTEREST OF PORTUGAL. THE REQUIREMENTS FOR
CONSULTATION CONTAINED IN DRAFT NOTE ABOVE ARE VERY
SIMILAR TO THOSE CONTAINED IN MFA.

4. IF PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT INSISTS, WE ARE WILLING, AS
PROMISED, TO EXTEND OLD AGREEMENT AGAIN AND THEN DISCUSS
NEW AGREEMENT AS SOON AS WE CAN SCHEDULE CONSULTATIONS.
HOWEVER, YOU SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT WE DO NOT RPT NOT
BELIEVE THIS WOULD BE IN PORTUGAL'S BEST INTEREST.

5. REQUEST EMBASSY PRESENT OUR PROPOSAL WITH TEXT OF
"AGREEMENT TO CONSULT" TO APPROPRIATE GOP OFFICIALS

FOR RESPONSE AT THEIR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE. WE WILL
INFORM PORTUGUESE EMBASSY WASHINGTON. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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